

**REMARKS**

We are in receipt of the Office Action dated August 11, 2003, and the above amendment and following remarks are made in light thereof.

Claims 1-77 are pending in the application. Pursuant to the Office Action, the examiner has identified 18 patentably distinct species of the claimed invention, the species belonging to one of eight different groups identified by the examiner as A-H.

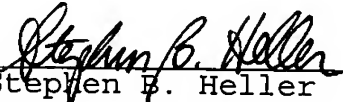
In response, applicant elects to prosecute the species B1/C2/D1. Applicant believes that claims 9-16, 27, and 46-77 are directed to this species. Applicant has not elected species from the groups A and E-J, as the elected claims do not include limitations directed to these species. Claims 12, 49, 57, 65 and 73 have been amended to reflect the election of species D1. Claims 1-8, 17-26, and 28-45 are withdrawn from consideration.

In view of the foregoing, applicant believes that it has made a complete response to the examiner's restriction

requirement, and an early Office Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 11, 2003

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen B. Heller  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No.: 30,181  
COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,  
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.  
200 West Adams Street, Suite 2850  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312)236-8500